

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 542

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

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Hearing Date: March 9, 2021 8:00 AM

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Karrie Wilson, Justice for the Wilson children

Karrie Wilson

Pflugerville, TX

Mrs. Karrie M. Wilson  
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November 24, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of my family, all the families before, and if nothing is done, all the families after. Travis County Child Protective Services is unprofessional at best and fully corrupt at its worst. They kidnap children and constantly get away with wrongful removal because no one does or can fight back when their children's lives are held in the balance. It is unjust, cruel, and a violation of our civil rights as U.S. citizens.

I have fought back, every day for nearly nine months.

My family has been torn apart, my children kidnapped from their home, and my husband and I subjected to endless tests, classes, monitoring, and threats. We have been treated like criminals and accused of heinous acts without any proof or due process. As I am familiar with CPS protocol and the legal system, I refused to accept the wrongful removal of my children. I refused to accept the control and the lies. I have spent close to nine months documenting everything that has happened. I have written many letters and sent them to thousands of people, hoping someone would hear me, help me.

Finally someone has, but I do not know who. The CPS caseworkers who kidnapped my children have been inflexible, argumentative, perjured testimonies during trials and in paperwork, and have fought against me and my family in the cruelest of ways, always at the detriment of my children. Now, the OIG has gotten involved, and in less than ten days, those same caseworkers are apologizing and working as quickly as possible to reunite my family and get my kids home. I have been given no reason as to why, overnight, they changed their message from saying we would never get them back to wanting them returned within two to three weeks.

It made sense when someone instantly filed a motion for leave to ensure that no one sees the corruption and negligence in this office. They are doing all they can to avoid a full OIG investigation into their lies and kidnapping of innocent children from innocent homes. The office is filled with cruel women who will lie for and protect each other and have all become obsessed with the power to take and destroy at will. I sound like a wounded mother, and I am; however, I also love children and believe in family. Knowing there is an unchecked government agency that can destroy these things is something I cannot tolerate.

This has happened too many times, to too many families. The government cannot continue to allow one of their offices to rip apart American homes, kidnap their children, and answer to no one. It is only due to our continued efforts and consistent fighting that we are getting our children back, but not everyone can do what we have done. This must stop. They must be held accountable.

The wrongful removal and kidnapping of the Wilson children, my children is outlined below.

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In the last nine mo

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Justice 4 Wilson Family

- kidnap By Cps!
- physically abused and neglected in foster care!
- teen runaway!
- statutory rape!
- harboring a runaway!
- corruption!
- lies!
- extortion!
- perjury!
- criminal barratry!
- tampering with evidence!
- False allegations!
- Broken Civil rules and procedures!
- Broken Human rights!
- Broken amendments!
- Guilty before innocent!
- No Justice within civil court!
- criminal actions by the State and the Department of family and Justice

Save Elanah, Elijah, Elandith, and Ellah Wilson  
From Travis County CPS Corruption!

D-1-FM-20-001841

retha wilcoxson

self

San Antonio, TX

We have long needed our foster children protected and cared for by the very best that we can offer and HB542 is one more step in the right direction. Our children are our future and we have long neglected the foster care of many children. Please pass HB542 giving us one more tool which will help us in that endeavor .Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Kate Murphy, Senior Child Welfare Policy Associate

Texans Care for Children

Austin, TX

In 2017, Gov. Greg Abbott said Texas should eliminate child deaths in the state's foster care system. Texas is falling far short of that goal. In FY 2020, 13 children in foster care died as a result of maltreatment.

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When the state removes children from their families and places them in foster care, their lives are supposed to get better. After the state chooses a foster home for a child, she should be safe from abuse or neglect. She should have the support and stability to heal from trauma, succeed in school, and thrive. And she should be able to count on state regulators keeping a close eye on the foster home or facility.

In the ongoing federal litigation against the Texas foster care system, court monitors have highlighted preventable child deaths in foster care facilities. For example, one teenage girl died from a pulmonary embolism caused by deep vein thrombosis in a Residential Treatment Center (RTC). She had been complaining of leg pain for over a month. After she collapsed, it took 37 minutes for staff to call 911 to get her the medical attention that may have saved her. This RTC had 60 minimum standards violations in the two years leading up to this child's death. DFPS later stopped contracting with this RTC, but the RTC then reopened under another name in a different location.

HB 542 by Chairman White requires DFPS to establish guidelines for placing a child in a residential child care facility where a preventable death has occurred. It also prevents a facility that has caused a child's death from reopening if the Health and Human Services Commission terminated a contract with that facility for that reason. Taking these steps, we can get closer to eliminating child deaths in Texas foster care.